

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 20-32, 35-65 and 67-71 are pending in the application, with 6, 13, 18, 38, 60, and 71 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 15, 19, 33, 34, and 66 were previously canceled. Claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 18, 20-32, and 35-51, 60-65, 67, and 68 were previously withdrawn. Claim 13 is sought to be amended. New claim 71 is sought to be added. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Potentially Interfering Patent

On April 19, 2005, Applicants submitted an Eighth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement with a number of references, including U.S. Patent No. 6,614,660 B1 to Bai *et al.* ("Bai"). Applicants wish to further identify the Bai reference as a potentially interfering patent.

Disposition of Claims

The Office Action indicates that claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 38-65, and 68-70 are pending in the application and that claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 38-51, 60-65 and 68 are withdrawn from consideration.

However, Applicants understand that claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 20-32, 35-65, and 67-71 are pending in the application, with claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 18, 20-32, 35-51, 60-65, 67, and 68 being the withdrawn claims.

Applicants therefore request that the Examiner confirm Applicants' understanding of the pending and withdrawn claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

In paragraph 7 of the Office Action, claim 70 was indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. New claim 71 is based on a combination of claims 13 and 70. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that claim 71 be passed to allowance.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 13, 16, 17, and 52-59

In paragraph 5 of the Office Action, claims 13, 16, 17, and 52-59 were rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,744,863 to Culnane *et al.* (hereinafter Culnane) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,583,513 to Utagikar *et al.* (hereinafter Utagikar). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants assert that Culnane and Utagikar, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest each and every feature of independent claim 13, as amended. (*See* MPEP 2143).

Independent claim 13, as amended, recites *a heat spreader that has a first surface and a second surface, wherein said first surface of said heat spreader is attached to said*

second surface of said substrate by an adhesive between said heat spreader and said substrate.

The Office Action concedes that Culnane fails to disclose a heat spreader that has a first surface and a second surface, wherein said first surface of said heat spreader is attached to said second surface of said substrate and wherein the second surface of said heat spreader is capable of being coupled to a printed circuit board.

Instead, the Office Action relies on adhesive 146 of Utagikar to allegedly teach the heat spreader of Applicants' claim 13. However, upon inspection, adhesive 146 is not attached to substrate 120 of Utagikar *by an adhesive between said heat spreader and said substrate*, as recited in independent claim 13, as amended. In fact, adhesive 146 is itself an adhesive, which obviates the need for an adhesive layer to attach adhesive 146 to substrate 120. Nothing in Utagikar even suggests that adhesive 146 is attached to substrate 120 by an adhesive between adhesive 146 and substrate 120, and instead, Utagikar teaches against the presently claimed invention.

Culnane and Utagikar, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest *a heat spreader that has a first surface and a second surface, wherein said first surface of said heat spreader is attached to said second surface of said substrate by an adhesive between said heat spreader and said substrate*, as set forth in independent claim 13, as amended. Thus, Applicants assert that independent claim 13, as amended, is patentable over Culnane and Utagikar, alone or in combination.

Therefore, for at least the reasons set forth above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 13 is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, claims 16, 17, and 52-59, which depend from independent claim 13, also distinguish over Culnane and Utagikar for reasons similar to those set forth above

with respect to independent claim 13, as amended, and further in view of their own respective features.

Claim 69

In paragraph 6 of the Office Action, claim 69 was rejected as being unpatentable over Culnane in view of Utagikar and U.S. Patent No. 5,903,052 to Chen et al. (hereinafter Chen). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 69 also distinguishes over Culnane and Utagikar for reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to independent claim 13, as amended, and further in view of its own features. Furthermore, Applicants assert that Chen does not supply the missing teachings. Thus, Applicants assert that claim 69 is patentable over Culnane, Utagikar, and Chen, alone or in combination. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

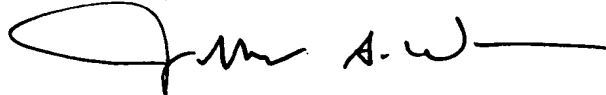
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. S. Weaver', followed by a horizontal line.

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